

Integrated Health Services for Veterans-The State's Part

HHS/HRSA/SAMHSA Conference

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24 August 2012, ASU Mercado Campus, Phoenix, Arizona

State Veteran Homes

Are the biggest State component in providing health care for veterans.

Work “hand in hand” with the VA to ensure health care for our veterans.

History of the State Veterans Home System

- After the Civil War, a large number of indigent and injured soldiers had no place to live. Like-minded concerned citizens banded together to create “Old Soldiers’ Homes”.
- **1864:** First State Home established in Rocky Hill, Connecticut.
- **August 7, 1888:** First federal aid made available to veterans residing within state homes. The amount? Approximately \$100.00 per veteran annually.

History continued

- **1930:** The V.A. was established. State programs were expanded, including an increase in per diem payments.
- **1952:** The National Association of State Veterans Homes (NASVH) was founded. The state homes joined forces to promote legislation at the national level. Problems and experiences common to all state homes were able to be discussed and plans developed to address those concerns.

History continued

- **1964:** The State Home Construction Grant was initiated. State Veterans Homes may apply for grants that assist the states with construction costs for construction of new State Veterans Homes and for significant renovations of existing facilities. The grant assumes 65% of the cost of the project. The state must contribute the remaining 35%.
- **February 24, 1986:** A memorandum of understanding between the V.A. and NASVH was signed, formalizing the mutual goal of providing quality care to veterans.

History continued

- **1988:** President Reagan signed legislation creating a new federal Cabinet-level Department of Veterans Affairs to replace the Veterans Administration. In both its old and new forms, the VA drew its mission statement from President Abraham Lincoln's eloquent second inaugural address. The specific phrase is: "...to care for him who shall have borne the battle, and for his widow and his orphan."

History continued

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs oversees the State Veteran Home program through the Office of Geriatrics and Extended Care. The VA assures congress that their appropriations to ensure quality care in the state homes occurs. This is accomplished via inspections, audits, and record reviews currently conducted by Ascellon, and the VA medical center of jurisdiction.

Today

- State Veterans Homes are one of the largest long-term care providers in the U.S. We furnish approximately 7m days of nursing home care and 1.5m days of domiciliary care. There are approximately 138 State Veteran Homes with more than 30,000 total beds.

Arizona State Veteran Homes

Arizona currently has two State Veteran Homes, in Phoenix and in Tucson.

Mission: To provide professional skilled nursing and rehabilitative care for the geriatric and chronically ill veteran and dependent/surviving spouses throughout the State of Arizona.

Goal: For each veteran to attain or maintain his or her highest practicable physical, mental and psychosocial well-being.

Arizona State Veteran Home- Phoenix



Arizona State Veteran Home- Tucson



Admission/Eligibility

An applicant is eligible for admission if the applicant is an honorable separated veteran or the spouse of a veteran.

The applicant must require skilled nursing care as determined by a physician.

Long-range Plan

- **Flagstaff Region-**120 bed State veteran home.
- **Kingman Region-**100 bed State veteran home for the triangle of Kingman, Lake Havasu, Bullhead City.
- **Yuma Region-**100 bed State veteran home.

Thank You

- QUESTIONS??
- COMMENTS??